Bellevue Parks & Community Services
Events List
(This list is a guide. Details may change.)

MAY 2012

May 4 **"The Lorax" by Dr. Seuss (children's activity),** 11 a.m. – Noon and 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Come listen to Dr. Seuss' environmental classic, *The Lorax*. Its message still rings true today amidst the dangers of clear-cutting, pollution and disregard for the earth's environment. Become a nature superhero when we make hats to take home. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** $2 per person; parent and child must both register. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #65716. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

May 4-13 **"Beauty and the Beast" (Bellevue Youth Theatre Production),**
May 4, 5, 11 and 12 at 7 p.m.; May 5, 6, 12 and 13 at 2 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16661 Northup Way
Kids of all ages will enjoy the retelling of this classic tale of the cursed prince. Hilarity ensues as everyone works to lift the curse by joining two unwilling souls. Will the Prince win Belle's heart? This is not the Disney version. This show will have two casts. **Ages:** This show is rated G. **Cost:** Tickets are $10/advanced or $12 beginning April 30. **To purchase tickets:** 425-452-7155. **Info:** http://bellevuewa.gov/BYT-productions.htm or 425-452-7155.

May 5 **Eastside Fuchsia Society Plant Sale,** 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
This plant sale features a great selection of plants from the Eastside Fuchsia Society. **Cost:** No admission fee; costs of plants vary. **Info:** 425-452-2750.

May 6 **"Frontier Friends" (children's movie),** 2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Bison and prairie dogs, marmots and mountain goats – they're friendly neighbors living in some unfriendly places. Running time is 30 minutes. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

May 8 **Mother's Day Dance,** 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
The "Sound of Swing" will perform for your dancing pleasure. **Ages:** 18 years and older. **Cost:** $3 per person. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-7681.

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May 10 **Orca Conservation… in Bellevue,** 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Ave SE
Orca whales are a source of pride for the residents of Washington State. But did you know that the orcas inhabiting our waters are an endangered species? Join Donna Sandstrom, Executive Director of The Whale Trail, for a presentation about orcas, orca conservation and how Eastsiders can help save these iconic creatures by conserving our salmon streams. **Ages:** Best for ages 8 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #65495 or www.MyParksandRecreation.com. **Info:** 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov .

May 11 **Nature Bingo (family activity),** 11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Learn about the elements that make up the natural world while you race to yell "Nature Bingo" first! **Ages:** 4 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; parent and child must both register. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course # 65722. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

May 12 **Washington Native Plant Society Sale,** 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Proceeds from this plant sale benefit the Washington Native Plant Society. **Cost:** No admission fee; costs of plants vary. **Info:** 425-452-2750.

May 13 **Ravine Experience Grand Opening,** 12:30 p.m. – 1 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Take a walk on the wild side on our new nature trail. The trail includes a 150' suspension bridge over a ravine in the most pristine of our native areas. The grand opening ceremony will take place at the entrance to the new bridge, so come prepared for the weather, and wear comfortable walking shoes. **Info:** 425-452-2750.

May 13 **Mother's Day Social,** 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
This open house features light refreshments, music and a celebration of the new Ravine Experience. **Info:** www.bellevuebotanical.org or 425-451-3755.

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May 13 **"Birds" (movie),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Watch the courtship flight of the marvelous spatuletail hummingbird; the male must rest every few seconds due to the energy needed to display his elongated tail feathers. Lammergeiers, by contrast, soar on mountain thermals with a minimum of effort. Some birds nest in extreme locations to avoid threats from predators. Kenya's caustic soda lakes are a perilous environment for a lesser flamingo chick, while chinstrap penguins breed on a volcanic island off the Antarctic Peninsula. Running time is 50 minutes. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

May 15 and 17 **Kelsey Creek Pony Partners,** 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Avenue SE
Children will learn pony safety, grooming, basic parts of a pony, and then will enjoy a craft. Each partner must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. This program runs, rain or shine. No infants or older siblings. **Ages:** 2-5 years. **Cost:** $50/residents and $60/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

May 15 **"The Future Remembered: The 1962 Seattle World's Fair and Its Legacy" (history program),** 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Ave SE
Join Paula Becker and Alan Stein of HistoryLink for a captivating program in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Seattle World's Fair. Learn how the space race lit the fire under Seattle's movers, shakers and dreamers, and how they turned their little-known, geographically-isolated city into the place that "invented the future" and gave us the remarkable legacy of a fondly remembered six months of learning and fun in 1962. Presented by the Eastside Heritage Center in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #65698 or www.MyParksandRecreation.com. **Info:** 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov .

May 18 **"Introduction to Birding" (ranger program),** 6 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Ave SE
Bird-watching is one of the most popular outdoor activities in America. From hanging a feeder to treading through a swamp at night, there's a lifetime of learning and fun to be had. Join us for an introduction to bird-watching. Learn introductory skills and see what you'll need to get started. A ranger will be available for a 45-minute guided walk through the Mercer Slough following the program. **Ages:** Best for ages 8 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov .

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May 19 **Art of Etiquette #1 – Young Ladies and Gentlemen,** 9 a.m. - Noon
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Children rarely attend classes on manners, and yet manners are the key to building positive friendships and strong self-esteem. This fun, hands-on workshop teaches telephone etiquette, basic table manners, introductions, personal care and posture. **Ages:** 6-11 years. **Cost:** $50/residents and $60/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106, or visit www.MyParkandRecreation.com .

May 19 **Art of Etiquette #2 – Young Ladies and Gentlemen,** 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
This course is a natural follow-up to Young Ladies and Gentlemen #1. One of the first social settings that children encounter is being a guest. Learning how to be a gracious guest, guest of honor, or host, are skills they will use lifelong. Boys and girls will learn about invitations, being a great guest and host, meeting and greeting others, polite conversation, giving and receiving gifts, basic table manners while neatly eating birthday cake, and how to create their own thank you notes. It is not necessary to have taken Ladies and Gentlemen #1 to enroll in Ladies and Gentlemen #2. **Ages:** 6-11 years. **Cost:** $50/residents and $60/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106, or visit www.MyParkandRecreation.com .

May 19 **Alive at 25: Driver's Awareness Course,** 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
City of Bellevue Probation Office (Surrey Downs), 475 112th Avenue SE
This four-hour driver awareness course was designed by the National Safety Council for young drivers. The course covers defensive driving classroom curriculum, decision making and taking responsibility. **Ages:** Drivers who are 15-24 years old. **Cost:** $35 per student. **Pre-registration:** Required. **For general information and to register:** Lourdes Salazar and LSalazar@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-6956.

May 19 **Fraser Cabin Heritage Program,** 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
The Fraser Cabin, built in 1888, and located at Kelsey Creek Farm, comes to life with activities and interpretation presented by volunteers and staff from the Eastside Heritage Center. Visitors are invited to participate in hands-on activities that relate to 1880s settler life: agriculture, dairy, household tasks, log cabins, games and Eastside history. Presented by the Eastside Heritage Center, in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** All ages; family event. **Cost:** Free. **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** Eastside Heritage Center at www.eastsideheritagecenter.org or 425-450-1049.

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May 19-20 **Rhododendron Show and Sale,** 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Proceeds from this show and sale will benefit the Cascade Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. **Cost:** No admission fee; costs of plants vary. **Info:** lscott@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2750.

May 20 **"Your Soil" (Know Your Yard Series),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Soil is the foundational element for all of our natural world. Learn how to increase the productivity of your gardens and grass. We will talk about soil-dwelling organisms, the role of soil for plants and animals and how to increase the productivity of your gardens and grass. **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course # 66100. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

May 25 **"Hummingbirds – Magic in the Air" (Movies at Mercer Slough),** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Ave SE
Get an up-close view into the lives of hummingbirds, one of nature's fastest creatures. Using high-speed cameras, behaviors that are otherwise impossible to appreciate come into full (and sometimes iridescent) light. Running time is approximately 70 minutes. Popcorn provided! **Ages:** Best for ages 8 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov .

May 27 **"Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson (Naturalists' Book Club),** 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* was first published in three serialized excerpts in *The New Yorker* in June of 1962. The book appeared in September of that year, and the outcry that followed its publication forced the banning of DDT and spurred revolutionary changes in the laws affecting our air, land and water. *Silent Spring* was a seminal text, instrumental in launching the environmental movement. It is without question one of the landmark books of the twentieth century. **Ages:** 15 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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JUNE 2012

June 1 **The Very Best Bed (children's activity),** 11 a.m. – Noon and 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (two separate sessions)
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Are you ready to snuggle down for the night in your very own bed? Come along as the gray squirrel searches for the very best bed as the moon rises higher in the night sky. We will make a squirrel puppet to take home. **Ages:** 3 years and older. **Cost:** $2; parent and child must both register. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #65717 or 66447. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

June 2 **Summer Solstice Dance,** 7 p.m. – 11 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
Welcome summer with the "Sounds of Swing." USA Dance will be here to teach a lesson from 7:30-8:15 p.m. Dance the night away to all the Big Band favorites. Sure to be a fun night! **Ages:** 18 years and older. **Cost:** $15 per person. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-7681.

June 3 **"Mystery of Squirmy Wormy" (children's movie),** 2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join the adventures of the Kratt brothers as they meet up with cool creatures from around the world. Each episode is an adventure that also features how animals use science in their natural lives. Running time is 30 minutes. **Ages:** 6 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

June 8 **Pond Dip (family activity),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
The edges of ponds and wetlands are great places for budding naturalists to explore! We will use tools like dip nets and water scopes to get a closer look at the wetland creatures of Lewis Creek Park. What will we find in this unfamiliar world? **Ages:** 6 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; parent and child must both register. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #65742. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

June 9 **Love Bugs (and Bees Too),** 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Parent and child go "buggy" together into the world of creepy crawlies and things that fly. Join us for crafts, stories, music and a yummy treat. **Ages:** 2-5 years. **Cost:** $22/residents and $25/non-residents. Fee includes one adult and one child; additional fee will be charged for additional children. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106, or visit www.MyParkandRecreation.com .

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June 9 **Intro to Birding for Kids (family activity),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Did you think bird-watching is just for adults? No way! Birding is something anyone can do! Come learn how to hone your observation skills and train your eyes and mind to focus on the birds you see every day at home, in the park, and in your school yard. **Ages:** 6 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; parent and child must both register. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #65723. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

June 9 **Native Plants – A Basis for Survival (nature activity),** 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Join Barb Williams, Eastside Heritage Center volunteer, to learn how you could survive using the plant technologies developed by local Native Americans. Through hands-on experiences, plant ID, stories, artifacts and an outdoor interpretive walk, become immersed in the excitement of this fascinating program. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com or call 425-452-6885, course #65699. **Info:** 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov .

June 10 **Pollinators in the Garden (family activity),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lake Hills Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Who are the pollinators in your backyard? What do they do? Are they just bugs? Come discover all of the cool critters who help make flowers bloom and gardens bountiful! **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-7225.

June 10 **"Insects" (movie),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
By assuming a variety of body shapes and incorporating armor and wings, insects have evolved diverse strategies and become the most abundant creatures on Earth. Many insects carry chemical weapons as a form of defense. Some insects gain an advantage through cooperation. When an American black bear destroys a bee's nest, the colony survives by carrying their honey to a new site. Running time is 50 minutes. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 12 and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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June 11-12 **Auditions for "Alice in Wonderland,"** 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre, 16661 Northup Way
Pick your time and enjoy this delightful tale with all the characters from the book. There will be two casts of *Alice in Wonderland.* One cast will rehearse from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; the other from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Rehearsals begin on June 25. **If you are gone for more than two weeks during the rehearsal process, please get permission to audition. You cannot audition if you are gone for any part of the week of the show performances (August 9-12) and will be dropped if conflicts come up. Ages:** 8 years and older. Children younger than 8 may audition, but an adult must accompany the child to every rehearsal and every performance. There are no exceptions to this rule. **Cost:** Free for Bellevue residents. Non-residents (includes some Bellevue addresses with zip codes 98004 and 98006) will pay $89. **Info:** http://bellevuewa.gov/BYT-auditions.htm or 425-452-7155.

June 12 **Father's Day Dance,** 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
The "Sounds of Swing" will perform for your dancing pleasure. **Ages:** 18 years and older. **Cost:** $3 per person. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-7681.

June 13 **Father's Day Luncheon,** 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
Enjoy a delicious lunch along with a presentation on the history of the Model A car. See a variety of Model A's, and talk with owners of these beautifully restored vehicles. Share your own Model A memories as well. Co-sponsored by Evergreen Chapter, Model A Club of America and Catholic Community Services/Community Dining. **Cost:** Suggested donation of $3 for those 60+; fee of $5.75 for those under 60, payable at the door. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** call 425-452-7681 to register by June 8. **Info:** 425-452-7681.

June 14 **The Ecological Home,** 6 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Although most of us didn't build or buy a "green home," there is a lot we can do to make our home, apartment or condo more ecologically sustainable. Join a Mercer Slough park ranger to learn some simple ways to make your home (both indoors and outdoors) a more sustainable place. We will focus on simple and inexpensive methods. The ranger will be available afterward to lead a brief tour of the Environmental Education Center – a Gold-Certified LEED facility. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 and up. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** go to www.MyParksandRecreation.com or call 425-452-6885, course # 65499. **Info:** 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov .

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June 15 **"Green Hour (family activity),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join us the third Friday of every month from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. for a *Green Hour* at Lewis Creek Park. Observe and explore the park during an hour of unstructured play and interaction with the natural world. Each month, creative, science-based ideas will have children and parents deepening their knowledge and love of nature together! **Ages:** 5 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required; parent and child must both register. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #66106. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

June 16 **Local Area Hikes – "Ecosystem Ecology" in Coal Creek Park,** 10 a.m. to noon.
Meeting place – Redtown Trailhead (Cougar Mountain) on Lakemont Blvd SE
Did you know Bellevue has almost 100 parks and over 80 miles of trails to explore? Get connected to your local greenbelts and neighborhood parks as rangers take you on hikes throughout the year. Please dress for the weather, bring water and wear sturdy shoes. Hikes vary in theme and length. **Distance: 5** miles. **Level of difficulty:** Moderate. **Ages:** All ages are welcomed. **Meeting place:** Redtown Trailhead (Cougar Mountain) on Lakemont Blvd SE. Limited parking. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

June 16 **Fraser Cabin Heritage Program,** 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
The Fraser Cabin, built in 1888 and located at Kelsey Creek Farm, comes to life with activities and interpretation presented by volunteers and staff from the Eastside Heritage Center. Visitors are invited to participate in hands-on activities that relate to 1880s settler life: agriculture, dairy, household tasks, log cabins, games and Eastside history. Presented by the Eastside Heritage Center, in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** All ages; family event. **Cost:** Free. **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** Eastside Heritage Center at www.eastsideheritagecenter.org or 425-450-1049.

June 17 **Father's Day Pancake Breakfast and More,** 8:30 a.m. - Noon
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Make Father's Day a Greenway Day. Start the morning with a delicious pancake breakfast, followed by adventurous activities. Climb the climbing wall, try out the vertical playpen on the Challenge Course, and take your family on an orienteering trek through Eastgate Park! Moms are welcome too! **Ages:** All ages. **Cost:** $8 per person. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** 425-452-4240 or email SBCC@bellevuewa.gov .

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June 17 **"Your Water" (Know Your Yard),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
What is the source of your water at home? Come learn how your yard practices affect local water quality and what can be done to mitigate water issues or retain water on your site. **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #66101. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

June 20-Aug 19 **Nature Photography Contest**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Have some great nature shots taken in Bellevue Parks that you want to share with the community? Enter Lewis Creek Park's Nature Photography Contest! The winner's photographs will be displayed at Bellevue Parks' environmental education centers. The winner will be announced on August 25th. Don't miss our Intro to Nature Photography class on June 24th for some extra pointers!
Ages: 15 years and older.. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

June 23 **"Deer" (Living With Wildlife),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Deer are among the most familiar animals of Washington, and in many places they are the largest wildlife that people encounter. Learn how to identify mule deer, black-tailed deer and white-tailed deer. Also learn which plants are deer-resistant! **Ages:** 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #65712. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

June 23 **Bellevue Botanical Garden 20th Anniversary Celebration,** 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Please join us for free demonstrations, entertainment and refreshments as we celebrate the Garden's 20th anniversary. Festivities will be held in the Shorts Visitor Center.

June 24 **Introduction to Nature Photography,** 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Learn the basics of nature photography. Come find out what those settings on your camera do and how they affect your photos. Whether you're trying to show off a tiny mushroom or capture the mountains in the distance, your photos can show your love for the outdoors. Bring your DLSR, and we'll practice connecting to nature through photography. **Ages:** 14 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #65731. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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June 24 **"Rewilding North America: A Vision for Conservation in the 21st Century" by Dave Foreman (Naturalists' Book Club),** 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
In *Rewilding North America*, Dave Foreman takes on arguably the biggest ecological threat of our time: the global extinction crisis. He not only explains the problem in clear and powerful terms, but also offers a bold, hopeful, scientifically credible and practically achievable solution. Sometimes dubbed "the *Sand County Almanac* for the current generation," *Rewilding North America* offers both a vision and a strategy for reconnecting, restoring and rewilding the North American Continent. It serves as a guidebook for anyone concerned with the future of life on Earth. **Ages:** 15 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

June 27 **Kelsey Creek Farm Gardening,** 11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Pick from a variety of seeds, plant one to take home and watch it grow just like the gardens on the farm. Walk around the farm and see the plants that grow here at Kelsey Creek Farm. **Ages:** Family event; all ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! Donations suggested to help support the farm - $1/person or $5 per family. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

June 29 **Movies at Mercer Slough: "Wolves – A Legend Returns to Yellowstone,"** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
After decades of absence from America's first National Park, gray wolves were reintroduced into Yellowstone in the 1990s. The return brought excitement but also controversy. Running time is approximately 55 minutes. We'll provide the popcorn! **Ages:** Best for ages 10 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-2565 or mseec@bellevuewa.gov .

June 30 **"Wolves in Washington" (Hot Topic Series),** 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Have you heard? Gray wolves have returned to Washington nearly 70 after they were extirpated from the state! Should we be excited or nervous? Where are they coming from? Where are they traveling to? What is the State doing to prepare for their presence? Explore and inquire about wolves in Washington State. Learn where you can find more resources on this important topic. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! Donations will be gratefully accepted. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** 425-452-6885, course #66204. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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JULY 2012

July 4 **Symetra Bellevue Family 4th ,** 2 p.m. – 10:40 p.m.
Bellevue Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th Street
Celebrate the 4th of July at Bellevue Downtown Park, enjoying the Eastside's largest Independence Day celebration. The event features the Bellevue Parks Family Fun Zone, an international food court, live entertainment on the main stage, formal presentation of the colors, and a C-17 Globemaster III flyover. When twilight fades, the Bellevue Youth Symphony Orchestra will play a rousing Independence Day tribute set to the Eastside's largest fireworks display. Admission is free, and activities begin at 2 p.m. Ticket prices vary for the Family Fun Zone inflatables, bungee trampoline, candy art, face art and other activities. International food court prices vary. Roving entertainers, mascots, live music and community spotlight booths are free. This event is co-sponsored by the City of Bellevue and the Bellevue Downtown Association. **Ages:** All ages, family event. **Cost:** No entrance fee; food and activity prices vary. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

July 4 **Volunteer for Symetra Bellevue Family 4th ,** 4 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Bellevue Downtown Park, 10201 NE 4th Street
We are looking for energetic, fun people to help with a multitude of tasks at the Bellevue Family 4th celebration. Credit is available for school-required volunteer hours. Volunteers must be able to follow directions, be comfortable in crowds, and be on their feet in all types of weather. Join us on July 4th at the Bellevue Downtown Park and help make this year's Bellevue Family 4th Celebration an event to remember! **Ages:** 16+. **Cost:** Free. **Pre-registration:** Required; no day of event registrations. **Info:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106.

July 10 **Bastille Day Dance,** 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
The "Sounds of Swing" will perform for your dancing pleasure. **Ages:** 18 years and older. **Cost:** $3 per person. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-7681.

July 10 **Brand Yourself for Success – Preparing for Graduation and More,** 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
You will learn how to make a positive and lasting impression, listen effectively, dress to succeed, set goals, manage your time, and gain tips on interviewing. **Ages:** 15 years and older. **Cost:** $75/residents and $90/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106; or visit www.MyParksandRecreation.com .

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July 11 **Rabbit Tales,** 11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Community Farm Park Amphitheatre, 410 130th Place SE
Teen farm volunteers and staff will introduce you to the world of domestic rabbits. Learn what they eat, where they live, how they like to be touched, listen to a story about bunnies, and do a craft project. **Ages:** Family event; all ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! Donations suggested to help support the farm. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

July 12 **"Wetland Mammals" (ranger program),** 2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
The wetland habitats of the Mercer Slough are home to a variety of mammals. Just minutes from downtown Bellevue are some of the most interesting creatures in King County. Learn about beavers, otters, muskrats and the other mammals that help make the Slough such a special place. **Ages:** Best for ages 8 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

July 15 **"Who Is Our Backyard Wildlife?" (ranger program),** 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
From buzzing bees and hummingbirds, masked bandits and climbing squirrels, who is our backyard wildlife? What are they doing in your yard? Learn how you can identify similar species, and who makes tunnels and burrows and mounds. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-7225.

July 18 **Wool and Ewe,** 11 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Community Farm Park Amphitheatre, 410 130th Place SE
The farm staff will introduce you to our resident sheep. Learn things about sheep and experience the feel of real wool. Make a wooly craft to take home. **Ages:** Family event; all ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! Donations ($1/person or $5/family) are suggested to help support the farm. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

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July 19 **Starlight Circus Show,** 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Robinswood Barn at Robinswood Park, 2430 148th Avenue SE
The "Zaniac" reaches into his dreams to present a show that inspires kids to READ! Vegetables are sliced in half by flying playing cards, surprises are pulled out of a bottomless suitcase, and feats of juggling and balance will keep you awake past your bedtime. This children's event that will be held in the park, on the grass area outside the Robinswood Barn. This show is presented by Alex Zerbe (Professional "Zaniac") and Bellevue Friends of the Library, in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** Family event; all ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! Donations suggested to help support the farm. **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

July 21 **Fraser Cabin Heritage Progam,** 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Community Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
The Fraser Cabin, built in 1888 and located at Kelsey Creek Farm, comes to life with activities and interpretation presented by volunteers and staff from the Eastside Heritage Center. Visitors are invited to participate in hands-on activities that relate to 1880s settler life: agriculture, dairy, household tasks, log cabins, games and Eastside history. Presented by the Eastside Heritage Center, in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. **Ages:** Family event; all ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** Eastside Heritage Center at http://www.eastsideheritagecenter.org/ or 425-450-1049.

July 21 **We Scream for Ice Cream,** 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th Street
Stay COOL this summer enjoying the wonderful world of ice cream. Spend a fun-filled morning creating art projects, making ice cream and decorating cookies. **Ages:** 2-5 years. **Cost:** $25/residents and $30/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** NWAC@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-4106

July 22 **"Coyotes and Wolves" (ranger program),** 2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue SE
Did you know that there are at least 50,000 coyotes that roam Washington State? Urban coyote problems are growing, with the first recorded attack on a human in Washington in 2006 in Bellevue (coyotes had been deliberately fed by people). Also, wolves are making a comeback in Washington! Learn about coyote and wolf identification, ecology, how to prevent conflicts if you encounter a coyote or a wolf. **Ages:** Best for ages 12 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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July 26 **Rocking, Reading and Dreaming,** 10:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Kelsey Creek Community Farm Park Amphitheatre, 410 130th Place SE
Bellevue Friends of the Library, in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services, presents a musical performance at Kelsey Creek Farm Park. The Not-It's performance will be to a rockin' tempo as they bounce around with fun, danceable music, movement and audience participation. **Ages:** Family event; all ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

July 27 **Movies at Mercer Slough: "Frogs – The Thin Green Line" (ranger program),** 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, Douglas Fir Community Room, 1625 118th Avenue Se
Amphibians are in trouble worldwide. From Australia to North America, a mass extinction event is currently underway. Explore the problem and see what scientists are doing about it. Running time is approximately 60 minutes. Popcorn provided! **Ages:** Best for ages 10 years and older. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

July 27 **Bat Detectors,** 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Community Farm Park Amphitheatre, 410 130th Place SE
Bats Northwest will dispel myths and discern the facts as we learn about the bats that live in the Pacific Northwest and beyond. Discover bats and the important role they play in nature and the food chain. Afterwards we will walk the grounds with a Bat Locator to see and hear the resident bats at work. **Ages:** Six years and older. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** Free! Donations ($1/person or $5/family) are suggested to help support Northwest Bats (non-profit). **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

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SEASONAL EVENTS

Feb-Sept **Garden d'Lights Classes,** offered monthly at various times
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Learn to make beautiful flower light creations that will actually become part of the display at the yearly Garden d'Lights at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. **Ages:** Adults. **For more info:** www.bellevuebotanical.org for class types, fees, times and dates.

April-Oct **Docent-led Tour,** every Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m.
May-Sept **Plant ID Tours,** 1 p.m. on May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11 and September 8
Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street
Reservations are not required. **Cost:** Free! **For more info:** 425-451-3755 or 425-452-2750.

April 28 – July 8 **"Wolves in Washington State" (traveling exhibit)**
Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE
Wolves, once hunted to near extinction, are making a comeback in Washington State. Understanding how to coexist with wolves is crucial to their survival. A complex story, "Wolves in Washington State" examines wolf habitat and land development issues as well as highlights the critical role wolves play in promoting a healthy ecosystem. **Ages:** Appropriate for ages 14 and older. **Cost:** Free! **Info:** 425-452-4195.

May **Babies in the Barnyard,** times and dates vary.
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Welcome springtime with a tour of our newest animals, which may include chicks, goats and calves. Learn about their special care and then finish up your visit in the garden, planting pumpkin seeds. Available in May only. **Ages:** 2 years and older. **Cost:** Varies, depending upon the number in your group. **Pre-registration:** Required. **Info and to register:** KelseyCreekFarm@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-7688.

May-Aug **Lewis Creek Ranger Hikes,** first Saturdays – May 5, June 2, July 7 and August 4, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Lewis Creek Park, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE
Join a ranger to explore the natural history of Lewis Creek Park. Look for signs of local wildlife, and learn what to do when encountering animals in the wild. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Not required. **Info:** 425-452-4195.

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May-Sept **Canoe the Mercer Slough,** Saturdays and Sundays, 8:45 a.m. – Noon (no trips on August 4 and 5)
Launch at Enatai Beach Park, 3519 108th Avenue SE
Explore the beautiful Mercer Slough Nature Park by water. After launching at Enatai Beach Park, we'll travel up the Mercer Slough, exploring the ecology and history of the area as we go. Please dress for the weather. Waiver form required for participation. Each canoe must have one experienced paddler. **Ages:** Family event; children must be at least 5 years old and accompanied by an adult. **Cost:** $14/residents and $16/non-residents. **Pre-registration:** Required. **To register:** www.MyParksandRecreation.com or 425-452-6885. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

June & Sept **Kids on the Farm Group Tours,** times vary
Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE
Explore our farm and meet our goats, pig, sheep, rabbits, chickens and ponies.. Experience the old-fashioned skill of wool carding and create a wool sheep to take home. **Ages:** For preschool and school groups, ages 2 and older. **Cost:** Varies according to group size (up to $5 per person). **Pre-registration is required. Info/Register**: 425-452-7688 or email kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov .

July-Aug **FREE Indoor Cycling Summer Series,** Wednesdays, 6 a.m. – 7 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.
South Bellevue Community Center, 14509 SE Newport Way
Catch an early morning or evening ride to start or end your day with a free, fun, all-levels ride. Morning rides begin Wednesday, July 11 and go through Wednesday, August 22. Evening rides begin Wednesday, July 18 and go through Wednesday, August 22. This is a great time to join others trying something new while burning up 600+ calories. Class is limited to 15 riders, so call SBCC to reserve a bike. **Ages:** 13+. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** Required. **To reserve a bike:** 425-452-4240. **Info:** Email jperugini@bellevuewa.gov .

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YEAR-ROUND EVENTS

3rd Sunday of each month
NWRSA Area 2060 Greater Sammamish Hand Spinners, Noon - 2 p.m.
Kelsey Creek Community Farm Park (Farm House), 410 130th Place SE
Visitors invited to drop in and watch as spinners demonstrate the traditional art of hand spinning as they turn fuzzy fiber into yarn. New spinners welcome! **Register:** not required. All ages welcome; children must be accompanied by an adult. **Info:** 425-452-7688 or e-mail kelseycreekfarm@bellevuewa.gov.

Every 1st Monday each month
Snocone Night, 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Bellevue Skate Park, 14224 Bel-Red Road (within Highland Community Park)
Bellevue Skate Park and Snowboard Connection are proud to present "Snocon Night." Various games, best trick contest, and give a ways for families and youth of all ages. Come check it out - you may walk away with some cool prizes. **Info:** 425-452-2722. **Register:** not required.

Every Monday
2011 Kids Care Coat Drive Planning Committee, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-119, 450 110th Avenue NE
Help plan an annual city-wide coat drive for families in Bellevue. **Info:** call Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com .

Every Monday
2012 Youth Involvement Conference Planning Committee, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-119, 450 110th Avenue NE
Help plan a biennial city-wide youth conference in Bellevue. Decide with other teens on selecting themes, workshops and speakers. **Info:** call Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com .

Last Monday each month
Youth Link Teen Closet Distribution Event, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
World Impact Network, 2015 Richards Road
Teen Closet is a free clothing bank for teens and families in the Bellevue area. Individuals, families, and community groups interested in volunteering at the event can contact Patrick, Youth Link Program Coordinator, 425-452-5254, e-mail palina@bellevuewa.gov, or visit www.youthlink.com.

Every Tuesday
21st Annual Community Leadership Awards Night Planning Committee, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, Room 1E-119, 450 110th Avenue NE
Help plan a city-wide youth recognition event in Bellevue. **Info:** call Youth Link at 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com .

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Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month
Community Leadership Awards Night Planning Committee, 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Room 1E-119
Help plan a citywide youth recognition event in our community. **Info:** Youth Link: 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com.

4th Tuesday each month
Bellevue Youth Court, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Council Chambers
Monthly session of Bellevue Youth Court with two juvenile court cases. **Info:** 425-452-2846 or visit www.youthlink.com.

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month
Bellevue Youth Council Meeting, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Room 1E-120
Youth leadership and community service program for Bellevue middle and high school students. **Info:** Youth Link: 425-452-5254 or visit www.youthlink.com.

1st Thursday each month
Bellevue Network On Aging Meeting, 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Avenue NE, Room 1E-112
Info: 425-452-7681 or visit www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm.

Every Saturday
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger-lead Walk, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street
Do you know the story behind the Phantom at Phantom Lake? Have you ever seen our feathered winter visitors? Can you spot a nurse log? Join a Park Ranger for a free guided tour of the Greenbelt. Learn the history of the park, tour community gardens, and learn about local wildlife. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration** is not required. **Info:** 425-452-7225. **NOTE: No walk on January 1, 2012 or April 21, 2012.**

Every Saturday
Mercer Slough Nature Walk, 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center, 1625 118th Avenue SE
At 320 acres, Mercer Slough Nature Park is Lake Washington's largest wetland and Bellevue's second largest park! Meet a Park Ranger at the Environmental Education Center for a free guided tour to learn about the fascinating flora, fauna and history of the park. Please dress for weather. **Ages:** All ages welcome. **Cost:** Free! **Pre-registration:** not required. **Info:** mseec@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2565.

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Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
Luncheon, Noon
North Bellevue Community Center, 4063 148th Avenue NE
Adults 60 and older can enjoy a delicious, hot lunch. ***Suggested donation***: $3 for those 60 and older; fee of $5.95 for those under 60. Lunches sponsored and prepared by Catholic Community Services staff and Center volunteers. Special events such as Thanksgiving and Holiday lunches.
Info/Pre-register: 425-452-7681.